

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.
Filed: Herewith
For: MASTER/SLAVE APPARATUS FOR RECEIVING
AUDIOVISUAL PROGRAMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of fees,
please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and the
accompanying remarks.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract with the following:

--An apparatus for receiving an audiovisual program
comprising a circuit for communication with means of
connection to a bidirectional communication network,
wherein the apparatus comprises: a first connector for
communication with a master apparatus; a second connector
for communication with a peripheral apparatus; a means of
transmission of a supply voltage on the first connector
originating from the master apparatus; and means of
detection of the presence of the supply voltage on the
first connector, the means of detection controlling a
switching circuit for going from a master mode of
operation of the apparatus in relation to the peripheral
apparatus in the case of the absence of the voltage, and
from a slave mode of operation in relation to the master
apparatus when the voltage is present.--

The abstract has been amended to correct informalities. No new matter is believed to be added.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.

Paul D. Smith

Date: August 30, 2001

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